

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, January 20, 1877, with transcript

Boston, January 20th, 1877. My poor dear May

I had no idea you could be so distressed dear about a little touch of sprained ankle on my part— or that you could go and blame yourself as you do.

Now I want you to understand that I won't allow any one to slander my little girl as you have been doing—she has been just as good and kind as an angel could be—and my foot instead of being worse is better. In fact it is quite well now so far as pain is concerned and only a little weakness remains.

Why what could you have done more? You made me keep still and send for a doctor—you made me promise to be careful for your sake—and I have been. I do not use the foot more than is absolutely necessary—and I hope you wont let me undergo the mortification of using a crutch. Please spare me that. You think my foot much worse than it is.

I forgot to mention in my letter last night—that Mrs. Sander is in town and leaves tomorrow evening. If you meet me in the forenoon we could call on her about eleven. If not—I will delay my visit till the afternoon so as to give you a chance to join me if you wish. I can call at Temple St. in time to meet the car that leaves Cambridge ten minutes before two—and if you do not come I shall 2 Make my call alone.

I shall meet the car leaving Cambridge at 9.20 in the morning at Temple Place—in case you like to come and see the experiment—and of you are not there I shall meet afternoon car at the same place—don't feel obliged to come dear—I state these hours merely because there is no time for an answer from you. If my foot seems well I shall come out in the afternoon—but if it is not strong—I will promise to keep quiet.

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Don't worry darling. You are my good angel dear—if you only knew it—You are doing me so much good in every way. I really think that I have turned over a new leaf this year through your influence—and I trust my good resolutions will continue.

Ever your loving, Alec, Miss Mabel Hubbard Cambridge